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part to respect the laws of the gods may be stronger than his keen personal inclination to punish *Majestäts-Beleidigung* by *Schrecklichkeit*.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

LARUE VAN HOOK.

THE CLASSICAL CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA

The 127th meeting of The Classical Club of Philadelphia was held on Thursday, December 7, with fifty members and guests present.

Dr. Francis H. Lee, of the Central High School, Philadelphia, read a paper entitled *Roses from the Anthology*. After a brief sketch of the history of the collection of verse which bears the title *Anthology*, Dr. Lee gave original translations of a considerable number of the poems and epigrams. The subject was very attractively treated from the literary and poetic point of view.

B. W. MITCHELL, *Secretary*.

THE PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF LIBERAL STUDIES

The Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Liberal Studies held its eighth meeting in the auditorium of the Houston Club, at the University of Pennsylvania, on Friday evening, December 8. Professor Walton Brooks McDaniel gave a most delightful lecture on Roman Women. He drew for his audience a most realistic portrait of a Roman Lucretia or Julia, from that early moment when numerous tutelary divinities were invoked for her infant needs, to the period in her life when, a Roman housewife, she appeared as the esteemed mistress of all the domestic arrangements of her home, equally respected with her husband within and without the house. The carefully selected lantern slides admirably illustrated Professor McDaniel's scholarly and witty paper.

JESSIE E. ALLEN, *Secretary*.

A VOICE FROM THE CROWD

The other day in company with a friend I was looking at Lake Carasajlo. The little waves were frolicking and sparkling in the pure sunlight. "It looks as if the lake were laughing", I said. As we talked on, suddenly and apropos of nothing my friend remarked, "I like what you said about the lake". He did not know that many years before Christ the Attic dramatist Aeschylus had spoken of 'innumerable laughter of the sea'. Here, certainly, was absolutely impartial appreciation. If one who is entirely unacquainted with Greek literature can recognize the aesthetic beauty of a faint and distant echo of the Greek, how much more would the original have appealed to him! A phrase like this is immortal, and its immortality can be known by all.

Isocrates spoke truth when he said²:

"So far has our city surpassed the rest of men in thought and expression that the scholars of this city have become teachers of the rest, and it has made the name of the Greeks seem to be the name no longer of a race but of knowledge, and them who share our training rather than those of common descent to be called Greeks".

LAKEWOOD, N. J.

HERBERT EDWARD MIEROW.

¹Prometheus, 80-90.

²The Panegyric, 50.

ROMAN AND MODERN MILITARY HIGHWAYS

The Romans built splendid highways throughout the country which they ruled, roads so well constructed that some of them are in use even to-day. The object was primarily to facilitate the rapid movement of armed forces; the benefit to other travel and traffic was incidental, though real.

For similar military reasons, Napoleon built many fine roads over the Alpine passes, really establishing the fine highway system of modern Switzerland, without which the tourist industry of peace times to-day would be much less profitable.

But through all that border region of France, Italy, Austria and Switzerland, great military highways have been constructed in recent years, visible perhaps to the tourist from a distance, but untrodden by him, because guarded by sentries who would (literally) shoot the unwary trespasser. And now, in the warfare between Italy and Austria, wonderful roads have been driven by the Italians through country heretofore inaccessible, roads which, alas, can never have any but military significance.

For all this, the Romans were the teachers of the nations; and the parallel is noted by Mrs. Mildred Farwell, in her account of her experiences in Serbia (Philadelphia Public Ledger, May 20, 1916; copyrighted by the Chicago Tribune Company):

"The train crawled slowly over the reconstructed bridges the retreating Serbians had blown up. Sometimes the entire construction was new, the old bridge thrown by the side of the track.

From Scopye to Nish squads of Serbian prisoners, among them a few Russian uniforms, were building a road in the bed of the old one, laying a foundation of broken rock, strong and heavy enough to stand any transport—even the big German guns. From the permanent quality of the work it looks as if the Germans intended making quite a stay in Serbia.

Long ago, the Roman legions, marching through this same country, making the roads as they went, could not have seemed more strange to the Balkan people of their day than the Germans with pale, set faces, under spiked helmets, riding their big European horses down the mountain passes or guarding the gangs of prisoners".

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

R. G. KENT.

THE NEW YORK LATIN CLUB

The New York Latin Club met on Saturday, November 11, at Hunter College. Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of the *Review of Reviews*, read a very interesting paper entitled *Classic Ideals and American Life*. In a later issue some account of the address will be given. Dr. Shaw took the place of Mr. John Jay Chapman, who was originally on the program for this meeting, but was unable to be present. Mr. Chapman will speak at the meeting on February 10.

On Saturday, December 9, the first meeting of The Classical Forum, organized lately by The New York Latin Club for the discussion of pedagogical and allied problems, was held. Mr. Elmer Bogert, of the Morris High School, New York City, gave a brief account of a proposed revision of the syllabus in Latin in New York State for the first two years of High School work. Of this, too, something will be said in a later issue. C. K.